

June 7, 2012

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. House of Representatives today voted to repeal the medical device tax set to take effect on January 1, 2013. The Healthcare Cost Reduction Act (H.R. 436), introduced by Congressman Erik Paulsen (MN-03) and Congressman Jason Altmire (PA-04), repeals the 2.3% tax imposed on U.S. manufacturers and importers of medical devices ranging from tongue depressors and lab equipment to pacemakers and MRI machines. The tax was created in 2010 as part of the health care reform law.

"Southwestern Pennsylvania is a hotbed of medical device innovation. I've toured many of these companies and seen firsthand how development of new medical technologies is creating jobs and improving healthcare delivery," Congressman Altmire said. **"This tax would stifle American innovation, cost American jobs, and reduce patient access to life-saving devices."**

"Congressman Altmire's tremendous leadership on this bipartisan legislation shows that innovation isn't a Republican or Democratic issue, it's an American issue," said Marshal Linder, President and COO of medical device maker ZOLL's Pittsburgh division.

"We know this bad policy will destroy jobs here in western Pennsylvania, and we thank Congressman Altmire for his hard work building support for these efforts, and his tireless outreach working with our region's innovators and job-creators."

During debate on the House floor earlier today, Congressman Altmire spoke on the importance of repealing this tax. You can view his speech [here](#) . The bill passed the House by a vote of 270-146.